## **Rural Opportunities Inc.**

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## Comprando Casa

Rural Opportunities Inc. designed Comprando Casa as an information and assistance program for Hispanics who want to become first-time home buyers. This program is offered at no cost to participants. Additional service areas are located in the Marion and Frankfort areas.

Prospective home buyers first attend an orientation to help them understand the requirements for qualifying for a loan and the amount of their individual mortgage limit. If potential buyers have impediments which prevent them from qualifying for a mortgage, Comprando Casa works with these individuals to help them eliminate those obstacles.

When potential buyers are in a position to obtain a mortgage, they attend classes which inform them of their buyer's rights and help them to make informed decisions about purchasing a home. Classes include:

- . Preparing to buy a home
- . Shopping for a home
- . Obtaining a mortgage
- . Preparing for the closing day
- . Household budgeting and home maintenance

Those who attend classes obtain a certificate which enables them to participate in special programs with reduced or no down payment and low interest rates. After obtaining the certificate, buyers select a lender who pre-qualifies them for a mortgage. At that time, a real estate agent is selected to assist them in finding a home. Comprando Casa provides a list of lenders and real estate agents who participate in the program.

During the buying process and up to a year after the purchase of a home, Comprando Casa continues to provide counseling and assistance.